

Rhonda K. Schmidtlein, of Missouri, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring December 16, 2021.

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R. Gil Kerlikowske, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Customs, Department of Homeland Security.

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Michael A. Hammer, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile.

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Messages from the House: Page S1364

Measures Referred: Page S1364

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Pages S1364, S1369

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S1364, S1369–70

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Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S1368–69

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Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—60) Pages S1335, S1349

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:33 a.m. and adjourned at 6:14 p.m., until 4 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1370.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Timothy G. Massad, of Connecticut, to be Chairman, who was introduced by Senator Blumenthal, Sharon Y. Bowen, of New York, and J. Christopher Giancarlo, of New Jersey, all to be a Commissioner, all of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Central Command and United States Africa Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General Lloyd J. Austin III, Commander, United States Central Command, and General David M. Rodriguez, USA, Commander, United States Africa Command, both of the Department of Defense.

MAP–21 REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP–21) reauthorization, focusing on the Federal role and current challenges to public transportation, after receiving testimony from Michael P. Melaniphy, American Public Transportation Association, Washington, D.C.; Barbara K. Cline, Community Transportation Association of America, Spearfish, South Dakota; and Lawrence J. Hanley, Amalgamated Transit Union, Staten Island, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development: Senators Menendez (Chair), Reed, Schumer, Brown, Merkley, Manchin, Warren, Heitkamp, Moran, Corker, Toomey, Kirk, Coburn, Heller, and Shelby.

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection: Senators Brown (Chair), Reed, Schumer, Menendez, Tester, Merkley, Hagan, Warren, Toomey, Shelby, Vitter, Johanns, Moran, Heller, and Corker.

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment: Senators Warner (Chair), Reed, Schumer, Menendez, Tester, Hagan, Warren, Heitkamp, Johanns, Corker, Shelby, Vitter, Toomey, Kirk, and Coburn.

Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance: Senators Manchin (Chair), Brown, Warner, Kirk, and Moran.

Subcommittee on Economic Policy: Senators Merkley (Chair), Tester, Warner, Hagan, Manchin, Heitkamp, Heller, Coburn, Vitter, Johanns, and Crapo.

Senators Johnson (SD) and Crapo are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

RAIL SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant

Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine enhancing our rail safety, focusing on current challenges for passenger and freight rail, after receiving testimony from Joseph C. Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, and Cynthia Quarterman, Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, both of the Department of Transportation; Christopher A. Hart, Vice Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; Geoffrey C. Blackwell, Chief, Office of Native Affairs and Policy, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; and Prentiss Searles, American Petroleum Institute, and Edward R. Hamberger, Association of American Railroads, both of Washington, D.C.

PREVENTING POTENTIAL CHEMICAL THREATS AND IMPROVING SAFETY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine preventing potential chemical threats and improving safety, focusing on oversight of the President's executive order on improving chemical facility safety and security, including S. 1961, to protect surface water from contamination by chemical storage facilities, after receiving testimony from Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Rafael Moure-Eraso, Chairperson, Chemical Safety Board; Michael P. Wilson, California Department of Industrial Relations, Oakland; James Frederick, United Steelworkers, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Evan P. Hansen, Downstream Strategies, Morgantown, West Virginia; Billy Pirkle, Crop Production Services, Loveland, Colorado, on behalf of The Fertilizer Institute; and Scott Berger, American Institute of Chemical Engineers Center for Chemical Process Safety, New York, New York.

SYRIA, MIDDLE EAST, AND UKRAINE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Syria spillover, focusing on the growing threat of terrorism and sectarianism in the Middle East, and Ukraine update, after receiving testimony from William J. Burns, Deputy Secretary of State; Derek Chollet, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs; Matthew G. Olsen, Director, National Counterterrorism Center; and Daveed Gartenstein-Ross, Foundation for Defense of

Democracies, and Matthew Levitt, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Deborah L. Birx, of Maryland, to be Ambassador at Large and Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally, who was introduced by Senator Cardin, Suzan G. LeVine, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein, who was introduced by Senators Cantwell and Murray, Maureen Elizabeth Cormack, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Peter A. Selfridge, of Minnesota, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight concluded an oversight hearing to examine contractor performance information, after receiving testimony from Captain Brian T. Drapp, Supply Corps, U.S. Navy, Commanding Officer, Naval Sea Logistics Center, Department of Defense; and Kevin Youel Page, Assistant Commissioner, Integrated Award Environment, Federal Acquisition Service, General Services Administration.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1675, to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Robin S. Rosenbaum, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Bruce Howe Hendricks, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Mark G. Mastroianni, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, and Leslie Ragon Caldwell, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.